

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A radio resource control unit which monitors air interface resources and provides an output for radio resource management; the control unit comprising;

an air interface measurement unit, for obtaining air interface measurements;

a storage unit for storing said air interface measurements; and

a processing unit, for processing said air interface measurements to determine the availability of actual values, the validity of actual values if they are available, and the availability of predicted values provide said output;

whereby at least a portion of said air interface measurements are predicted measurements.

2. (original) The control unit of claim 1 whereby at least a portion of said air interface measurements are actual measurements.

3. (original) The control unit of claim 2, whereby actual measurements and predicted measurements are selectively combined by said processing unit.

4. (original) The control unit of claim 1, whereby said storage unit also stores a timestamp for each stored air interface measurement, said timestamp corresponding to the time which said air interface measurement was stored.

5. (currently amended) A method for obtaining radio resource management data comprising:

obtaining air interface measurements;
storing said air interface measurements;
generating and storing a timestamp indicative of the time each air interface measurement is stored; [and]

processing said air interface measurements to provide output data; whereby at least a portion of said air interface measurements are predicted values;

determining availability of an actual measurement, in the case of availability of the actual measurement, determining a validity of the actual value, and in the case of a valid actual value, using the actual value; and

in the case of unavailability of the actual value, determining availability of a valid predictive value, in the case of the availability of the valid value the using the predictive value, and in the case of indeterminate validity of the predictive value, using a default value.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said processing step determines whether an air interface measurement is valid by comparing the corresponding timestamp with a threshold, and if said timestamp is older than said air interface threshold then said air interface measurement is declared invalid.

7. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said processing step:

determines the occurrence of a transient period; and
determines whether an air interface measurement is valid by comparing the timestamp of the air interface measurement to the occurrence

of the transient period, and if said timestamp is within said transient period then said air interface measurement is declared invalid.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein said determination is performed when said air interface measurement is stored, and a corresponding validity indicator is also stored with said air interface measurement.

9. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said output data comprises default value.

10. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said output data comprises a combination of predicted values and actual data.

11. (new) The control unit of claim 1 whereby:

the processor determines availability of an actual measurement and, in the case of availability of the actual measurement, determines a validity of the actual value, and in the case of a valid actual value, uses the actual value; and

in the case of unavailability of the actual value, the processor determines availability of a valid predictive value, in the case of the availability of the valid value the uses the predictive value, and in the case of indeterminate validity of the predictive value, uses a default value.